



State of South Carolina
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

André Bauer
Lieutenant Governor

Office on Aging
Cornelia D. Gibbons
Director

Media Advisory:
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**\$3,000 Grant from Lt. Governor's Office on Aging Supports New
Alzheimer's Education Program at Capitol Senior Center**

- **Who:** The Capitol Senior Center, Executive Director, Larry Jordan. Mr. Jordan can be contacted at (803) 779-1971.
- **What:** This local organization that serves senior citizens and their was recently awarded a \$3,000 grant from the South Carolina Lt. Governor's Office on Aging to support Alzheimer's education efforts.
- **When:** On June 28, Lt. Governor André Bauer will personally present the grant award to the organization's leaders. Photographs of the award presentation will be available for news organizations unable to attend.
- **Where:** The grant awards ceremony will take place at the Statehouse in Columbia. Lt. Governor Bauer's Office is on the first floor.

Background:

Information is critical to helping individuals and families cope with Alzheimer's disease, and the Capitol Senior Center hopes to address that growing need in Columbia with a series of educational seminars. The new program is made possible with the support of a \$3,000 grant from the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging.

The seminars will be targeted to families who are already caring for someone with Alzheimer's, and to individuals interested in finding out about identifying warning signs for the illness and steps to take should a loved one appear to have Alzheimer's, dementia, or a related disorder. Capitol Senior Center currently hosts a monthly Family Caregiver Support Group, provided by the Area Agency on Aging that serves the midlands.

Two aspects of the program emphasized by the Capitol Centers grant writers are:

- 1) Current caregivers who attend the seminars will get a short break from their care giving duties and have an opportunity to socialize with other people in the community with similar concerns.
- 2) Other attendees will be better prepared should the time come when they have to assume the role of caregiver, and they will meet and can talk with other people who have experienced the same issue.

These types of supports are critical to helping people who are caring for someone with Alzheimer's. The seminars will be open to the public.

The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center (ARCC) in the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging was created to provide statewide coordination, service system development, information and referral, and caregiver support services to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, their families and caregivers. Legislation directs the center to:

- Initiate the development of systems which coordinate the delivery of programs and services
- Facilitate the coordination and integration of research, program development, planning and quality assurance
- Identify potential users of services and gaps in the service delivery system and expand methods and resources to enhance statewide services
- Serve as a resource for education, research and training and provide information and referral services
- Provide technical assistance for the development of support groups and other local initiatives to serve individuals, families and caregivers
- Recommend public policy concerning Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to state policymakers
- Submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging and to the General Assembly

A detailed demographic look at South Carolina and Richland County's senior population based on the 2000 federal census can be found at www.scmatureadults.org . The report Mature Adults in South Carolina is a publication of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging.